THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) Proposals to include Nama Sudra community in the list of Scheduled Castes, were received from State Governments of Chhattisgarh and Uttarakhand.

The proposal of Government of Uttarakhand was processed in accordance with the Approved Modalities. On the basis of comments of the Registrar General of India, the Government of Uttarakhand was requested to send requisite ethnographic information which has not been received.

The proposal of Government of Chhattisgarh to include Nama Sudra Community in the list of Scheduled Castes was referred back to them, as it was found inconsistent with conclusions contained in the Report of their Institute namely Adim Jati Anusandhan Evam Parikshan Sansthan, which mentioned that untouchability is not practiced against them, whereas the criterion followed for specification of caste as a Scheduled Caste is extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of the traditional practice of untouchability.

Reservation in private sector

2291. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any suggestion was given in the National Common Minimum Programme towards providing reservation in the private sector;

(b) if so, the steps Government has taken, if any, so far;

(c) whether Government is considering to bring in a new legislation in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (e) In response to the commitment contained in the National Common Minimum Programme to initiate a dialogue with Industry and other associations to fulfill the aspirations of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes youth, a Group of Ministers was formed. The Group met five times and also held consultations with the representatives of Apex Industry Associations. A Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister was constituted in October, 2006, to carry forward the dialogue with Industry on affirmative action in the private sector. The Committee has been holding discussions with representatives of Apex Industry Chambers/Associations from time to time.

Housing for helpless people

†2292. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating on any scheme for housing for helpless persons in every district of the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount being sanctioned by Government to State Governments for the above scheme; and

(d) the details of programmes going on presently for helpless old people, helpless disabled persons, *etc.* and achievements made, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) Section 19(1) of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 provides that the State Government may establish old age homes for indigent senior citizens in each district, in a phased manner.

(d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is providing financial assistance to the Non-Governmental Organizations under the Schemes 'An Integrated Programme for Older Persons' and 'Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) for benefit of helpless elderly and disabled persons respectively. The state-wise details of beneficiaries during 2007-08 is given in Statement. (*See* below) In addition, 2,24,990 disabled persons were assisted under the scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP Scheme) during 2007-08.

Statement

State wise details of beneficiaries during 2007-08

	State/UTs	No. of beneficiaries under the scheme of integrated programme for older persons	No of beneficiaries under the scheme of DDRS
1		2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20480	26360
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	786
3.	Assam	3590	2133
4.	Bihar	25	1614
5.	Chandigarh	0	120
6.	Chhattisgarh	25	716
7.	Goa	0	205
8.	Himachal Pradesh	450	322
9.	Gujarat	0	6670
10.	Haryana	1700	2690
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	400	111
12.	Jharkhand	0	1001

1	2	3
13. Karnataka	8510	18278
14. Kerala	25	5231
15. Manipur	4440	1720
16.. Maharashtra	1440	4011
17. Meghalaya	0	1289
18. Mizoram	100	181
19. Madhya Pradesh	50	5665
20. Nagaland	25	26
21. Delhi	1600	12081
22. Orissa	10800	20242
23. Punjab	590	3443
24. Pondicherry	75	194
25. Rajasthan	150	3232
26. Tamil Nadu	9185	27736
27. Tripura	378	128
28. Uttar Pradesh	2385	89148
29. Uttaranchal	125	469
30. West Bengal	5565	26924
Total	72113	262700

Use of fake SC certificates

2293. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of irregular appointments with fake SC certificates, in the Central Government offices, including Defence Estates Organization at Guwahati were detected and referred by the Guwahati office of the National Commission of Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, the details of such cases detected and the action taken on each of them from the date of such reference;

(c) whether Government is yet to take action on some cases even after years of such reference;

(d) if so, the details thereof, departmentwise, showing the reasons for such delay in enforcing the law; and